

Banning Head of Confidence Gang, Seen in Tulsa Wednesday Reading World Story

Following the Evening World's story last Tuesday announcing the arrest of Harry Homer, notorious confidence man at Mineral Wells, Texas, and declaring that the headquarters and members of the gang were in Tulsa, federal authorities began concerted work to bring the leaders to justice. George Albert Banning, known all over the United States under various aliases, has for five years a federal fugitive and wanted for many crimes perpetrated in all parts of the country and known to be in Tulsa.

Investigation showed that Banning was in the city as late as Wednesday, but he has not been seen since that day. On Wednesday morning Banning and several others were seen riding the express of the famous confidence game in Tulsa.

When officers here are still on the trail of Banning and other members of the band, they are of the opinion that all are in hiding since Homer's arrest at Mineral Wells.

May Be Held in Texas

In a telephone communication to the World Sunday, W. E. Nichols, chief of police at Oklahoma City, who was responsible for the arrest of Homer on March 27, said that Texas authorities were holding a man thought to be the leader of the gang. Local federal authorities believe this may be Banning but have received no definite word.

For a while the federal men here were working on the theory that Homer was the ringleader of the confidence workers' ring, but later developments show that flaming is the leader.

"Waco Kid" Also Here

Another member of the band, known as the "Waco Kid," has been here periodically for more than two years. He is known as one of the cleverest crooks in the game today, and is well known in Tulsa under various aliases.

From its special correspondent in Toledo the World received the following message Sunday:

Tulsa, March 30. Disclosure of the man believed to be the real backer of the Tulsa confidence

gang, which had planned one of the most far-reaching swindling games in the history of the country, was made this afternoon by your correspondent by an untrustworthy source of information when Deputy United States Marshal J. A. Atkinson, of Fort Worth, who brought Harry S. Homer from Mineral Wells, Texas, dropped the remark that he expected to bring to Tulsa the entire gang wanted in the Oklahoma swindling cases of 1914.

This man is George Albert Banning, alias Harry Homer, alias G. A. Atkinson. Atkinson said it was sentenced to two years in the Minotaur Penitentiary and a \$2,000 fine. Banning jumped bail with Homer. Banning went east and Homer came to the southwest. Banning was next heard of in 1915 when he was cited after robbing a bank at Mineral Wells. This was followed by his breaking out of prison and his taking now for a while.

Banning, besides his chosen profession as a sort of J. Rufus Wallingford, owns one of the most extensive furniture establishments in New York. His wife ostensibly runs the business and they rent vacation homes in the Riverside Drive neighborhood and travel to show their wares.

Time and time again when Banning has been suspected of crooked work in towns where his record was known, he has been released merely by proving that he is a New York business man of no mean pretensions.

Banning is believed managing to get in touch with his old pal and underworld Homer through the underworld wireless here last year and the Tulsa scheme was hatched. Banning, a New York business man in both camouflage and voice, was one of the conspirators chosen to be the necessary third party in the operations in the southwest. Banning as the rich New Yorker in search of health, willing to invest in a certain amount in various ventures if the "come-on" would do the same, plays his part like an actor never overdoing it and never seeming too anxious. This creates the entire band.

necessary background of confidence on the part of the victim.

In arresting Homer, the officials presented the swindle of Joe Williams, prosperous Farmington, Mo., farmer, or \$20,000. It is believed the news of the arrest came to the band before it was arrested and it is probable certain that Banning turned to Tulsa, the center of the spiderweb for the large quarry of the band.

If Harry Homer, whose name is C. H. Webster, knows the whereabouts of the other Tulsa members of the gang, he will not add it to the officers. Neither is he disposed to reveal his connection with Banning. Homer has entered into the routine of the Tulsa criminal with cynical nonchalance and the only interest he has displayed in his own case is the date of his hearing on the charge of jumping a bank.

Probation officers on the way to Tulsa obtained more or less information but he insisted that he was all alone. He joined the officers in the heavy laugh that followed. The federal men who brought Homer here last week returned to Fort Worth today without the expect to find at least one more member of the "Mafia" still awaiting a trip north.

Mines in Tulsa Recently

"Big Eddie" Mine was in Tulsa last winter, he has not been seen here for several months.

Federal officers all over the southwest are working to round up the remaining four members of the gang, who are believed to be in custody in the next few weeks. It is believed that most are under easy surveillance but the renewed interest in the case through the arrest of Homer is expected to lead to the arrest of the entire band.

Death of J. Carson

J. Carson, 34 years old, died at his home, 309 Buena Vista, Monday morning. The burial will be this afternoon at 2 p.m. at Rose Hill cemetery.

LABOR LEADER HERE ON SMELTER TROUBLE

Sand Springs Men Not on Strike, But Don't Want Wages Cut.

The state federation of labor has taken cognizance of the labor troubles at the United States Zinc Company smelter in Sand Springs and Edgar Fenton, the federation's representative arriving in Tulsa yesterday afternoon to investigate and end the difficulties if possible.

Fenton had not been advised as to the details of the trouble when a local reporter met him on the street yesterday afternoon just after he reached the city.

"I don't believe there is any real trouble," he said. "I haven't been here long enough to look into the situation but I will begin my investigation tonight and except to have things shaped up all right very soon."

The smelter workers employed at the plant recently perfected a union in the International Union of Metal Mill and Smeltersmen. It is said the Sand Springs local carries a membership of about 200 men.

The plant was closed down after the men had voted not to accept a reduction of 10 cents a day in their wages. There has been no strike. The men have never voted to strike and the best of relations exist between the company and the members of the union. There are 289 employees of the smelter and the most of these men own their homes.

Allied Missions Arrive at Belgrade

FAIRFIELD, March 31. The British and American missions which were in Budapest when the Hungarian revolution broke out, are arriving at Belgrade. They were imprisoned in their living quarters, but not sent to jail.

Lessons Votes on Strike

COPENHAGEN, March 31. A conference of workers' delegates at Essen has adopted a resolution calling for a general strike tomorrow. A Stuttgart dispatch to the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger reports the outbreak of a general strike there.

TRUST COMPANY AWARDED VERDICT AGAINST BRADYS

Holding that an indebtedness of \$1,000 on a mortgage given on property in the city of Tulsa on October 1911, by the Bradys, defendants had been admitted and instructing the jury to return a verdict, so far upon the amount of attorney fees due the plaintiff, the jury awarded the Interstate Mortgage & Trust Co. of Par-

sone, Kan., a judgment for \$225 in their suit against Rachel C. Brady, W. T. Brady and others in district court Monday.

The suit was brought to recover judgment for \$16,000, but Judge Redmond S. Cole, after hearing testimony in the case, decided that the second mortgage for \$2,000 contemplated, had not actually been completed and that since the defendants admitted the indebtedness of \$1,000 on the first mortgage, there was nothing for the jury to decide except the amount of attorney fees.

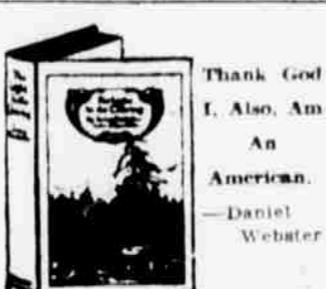
The mortgage was given on lots 4 and 5, block 21, North Tulsa, addition to the city of Tulsa and part of lot 7, block 1, original townsite of Tulsa. This is equivalent to one acre American.

Draft Clerks Through

WASHINGTON, March 31.—All clerks and other employees of local draft boards throughout the country go off the government's payroll to night at midnight.

Halliburton-Abbott Co.

Some Interesting Books You Should Read



Thank God
I Also Am
An
American.
—Daniel Webster

That is what you will exclaim when you have read IRVING RACHELLE'S NEW BOOK.

The Light in the Clearing

It is by the same author as EBEN HOLDEN, you know.

Piction? Yes, more convincing than fact.

It is a bugle call to true Americanism.

It is, as it should be—

The Novel of the Hour

65c

A Few New Ones.

"The Secret Witness," by George Gibbs.

"The Bolted Door," by Geo. Gibbs.

"Undertow," by Kathleen Norris.

"The Road to Understanding," by Eleanor H. Porter.

"The Broken Gate," by Emerson Hough.

"Limpy," by Wm. Johnson.

"How Could You, Jean?" by Eleanor Hoyt Brainerd.

"Caroyn of the Corners," by Ruth Belmore Endicott.

"The Escape," by Mr. Truitt," by Irvin S. Cobb.

Also the big gripping stories of the northwoods by H.A. Cody.

"The Fourth Watch,"

"Rod of the Lone Patrol,"

"The Long Patrol," "Under Sealed Orders" and hundreds of other interesting fiction.

65c Copy

Special Lot of

Paul Jones Middies for Children. —Special \$4.95

Children's Paul Jones middies, made in regulation styles of very fine quality chambray gingham, in light green, pink and blue; have large square collars and the cuffs are trimmed with white braid.

Children's Dresses. —Special, \$3.95 and

These dresses are shown in a number of becoming styles, made of good durable quality gingham in colors that will not soil easily and wash well, pink, blue and tan stripes and plaids; some with collars and belts of contrasting colors; sizes 6 to 14 years.

Fourth Floor.

Special Lot of

New Petticoats. —Special \$2.95

Now that skirts are to be worn longer, petticoats must necessarily show that they also follow fashion. Here you will

find a charming variety of the newest petticoats, excellent fashioned from attractive and durable

quality taffeta. They are made with narrow plaited ruffles or corded touched flounces, in gray, rose, tan, plum and beautiful

changeable effects. —Priced \$5.95

Third Floor.

Father Speaks His Mind

"I say, old chap, you're looking rawther toppin' don't you know?"

Well, why not? Dolly has just bought one of those new fangled sewing machines—THE FREE—and she got it at a real bargain. In the last shipment she received of this machine there were a number of slightly scarred ones that they offered at about half price and she bought it for \$37.50. And I'm blessed if the whole bloomin' family aren't crazy about sewing on it. They are outfitting at half cost by making 'em at home.

That man Free, who invented this machine ought to get a medal from grateful husbands and fathers, don't you think?

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